

On the beat

By Kendra Ceule

Photos by Bill Stafford



JSC SECURITY BIKE PATROL

For the past couple of months, JSC employees may have noticed security guards riding around the Center on bicycles. They are part of the new JSC Bike Patrol, which is the newest of JSC Security's efforts to keep employees safe.

Although the patrol is new – it was launched on Oct. 13 – its worth is already being established. One bike patroller was able to help save a life on site, largely because he was on a bike instead of in a car.

"I was a long way away from where a car could have gotten to it," said Officer Robert Smith, who arrived at the scene in time to revive the individual with CPR and an AED device. "We were actually able to save her life, so I was real pleased with that."

The bike patrol also benefits Center employees in less dramatic ways. Other functions of the patrol include traffic monitoring and responding to incidents around the Center.

One reason the patrol was established, said Chief Rick Hewitt, was so that security officers would be able to better interact with employees.

"The officers are able to be more active in the community," said Hewitt, "and they seem more approachable than officers in cars might."

Currently, the patrol employs two full-time and two part-time officers. Smith encourages employees to get to know the bike patrollers.

"Don't be afraid to stop us and ask questions," he said. "That's what we're there for."



Thanks to the recent addition of a bike patrol to JSC Security, guards on bicycles can now be seen patrolling the campus. JSC Bike Patrollers Fred Taylor, left, and Robert Smith make the rounds at the Center. Bike patrollers perform many of the same jobs that security officers in cars do, such as traffic duties, parking-lot monitoring, badge checking and responding to incidents around JSC.

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Smith discusses safety issues with IMPASS Safety and Quality Assurance Manager Carl Matthews.



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Taylor, left, and Smith bike through JSC on their daily rounds.

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